

08-09

Supplemental Fishing Regulations

Effective

March 1, 2008 - February 28, 2009
unless otherwise noted herein.

State of California

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

Fish and Game Commission

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Mr. Michael Sutton, Member
Mr. Daniel W. Richards, Member
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THIS IS A SUPPLEMENT

The regulations in this supplement supersede regulations listed in the 2008 Freshwater and/or Ocean Sport Fishing regulation booklets. NOTE: This supplement does not contain a complete set of fishing regulations. Refer to your original copy of the 2008 Freshwater and/or Ocean Sport Fishing regulation booklet for regulations not included here.

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FREE FISHING DAY!

September 27, 2008

On this day only, **ALL** regulations apply and
report cards are now required –
but **NO** license is required
for sport fishing.

Freshwater Fishing Regulations Update

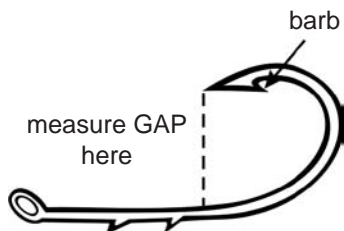
These proposed regulations were adopted by the Commission on June 26, 2008 and will be effective on August 15, 2008.

Subsection (b)(91.1) of Section 7.50 is amended as follows.

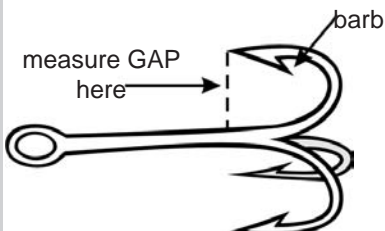
(91.1) Anadromous Waters of the Klamath River Below Iron Gate Dam (Lower Klamath River Basin). The regulations in this subsection apply only to waters of the Klamath River system which are accessible to anadromous salmonids. They do not apply to waters of the Klamath River which are inaccessible to anadromous salmon and trout, for example, portions of the Klamath River system upstream from Iron Gate Dam, portions of the Trinity River system above Lewiston Dam, and the Shasta River and tributaries above Dwinnel Dam. Fishing in these waters is governed by the General Regulations for non-anadromous waters of the North Coast District (see Section 7.00(a)(5)).

(A) Hook and Weight Restrictions.

1. Only barbless hooks may be used.
2. Definitions of Gap: For the purposes of this section, "gap" means the distance measured from the point of a hook to the shank.
3. Maximum Gaps and Gear Rigging.
 - a. No person shall use any single hook with a gap greater than 1 inch or any multiple hook with a gap greater than 3/4 inch.
 - b. It is unlawful to use any hook which is directly or indirectly attached closer than 18 inches to any weight exceeding 1/2 ounce.
 - c. It is unlawful to use any multiple hook or more than one single hook on non-buoyant lures exceeding one ounce.
 - d. It is unlawful to use any weight attached directly below a hook.
4. During closures to the take of adult salmon, anglers shall not remove any adult Chinook salmon from the water by any means, such as by dragging the fish on shore or using a net.



Single hook: a hook with one point



Multiple hook: a hook with more than one point on a common shaft

(B) General Area Closures.

1. No fishing is allowed within 750 feet of any Department of Fish and Game fish-counting weir.

2. No fishing is allowed from the Ishi Pishi Falls road bridge upstream to and including Ishi Pishi Falls from August 15 through December 31.

Exception: members of the Karuk Indian Tribe listed on the current Karuk Tribal Roll may fish at Ishi Pishi Falls using hand-held dip nets.

3. No fishing is allowed from September 15 through December 31 in the Klamath River within 500 feet of the mouths of the Salmon, the Shasta and the Scott rivers.

(C) Klamath River Basin Possession Limits.

1. Trout Possession Limits.

a. The brown trout possession limit is 10 brown trout.

b. The hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead possession limits are as follows:

(i) Klamath River - 1 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead.

(ii) Trinity River - 4 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead.

2. Chinook Salmon Possession Limits.

a. Klamath River from January 1 to August 14 and the Trinity River from January 1 to August 31.

(i) 2 Chinook salmon.

b. Klamath River from August 15 to December 31 and Trinity River from September 1 to December 31.

(i) 9 Chinook salmon. No more than 6 Chinook salmon over 22 inches total length may be retained when the take of salmon over 22 inches total length is allowed.

(D) Klamath River Basin Chinook Salmon Quotas.

The Klamath River fall Chinook salmon take is regulated using quotas. Accounting of the tribal and non-tribal harvest is closely coordinated from August 15 through December 31 each year. These quota areas are noted in subsection (b)(91.1)(E) with "Fall Run Quota" in the Open Season and Special Regulations column.

1. Quota for Entire Basin. The 2008 Klamath River Basin quota is 22,500 Klamath River fall Chinook salmon over 22 inches total length. The department shall inform the commission, and the public via the news media, prior to any implementation of restrictions triggered by the quotas. (NOTE: A Department status report on progress toward the quotas for the various river sections is updated weekly, and available at 1-800-564-6479.)

2. Sub Quota Percentages.

a. The sub quota for the Klamath River upstream of the Highway 96 Bridge at Weitchpec and the Trinity River is 50% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

(i) The sub quota for the Klamath River from 3,500 feet downstream of the Iron Gate Dam to the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec is 17% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

(ii) The sub quota for the Trinity River main stem from the Old Lewiston Bridge to Cedar Flat is 16.5% of the total Klamath River Basin quota

(iii) The sub quota for the Trinity River main stem from Hawkins Bar to the confluence with the Klamath River is 16.5% of the total Klamath River Basin quota

b. The sub quota for the Klamath River downstream of the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec is 50% of the total Klamath River Basin quota.

(i) The sub quota for the Spit Area (within 100 yards of the channel through the sand spit formed at the Klamath River mouth) is 15% of the total Klamath River Basin quota taken downstream of the Highway 101 bridge. (Note: This provision only applies if the department projects that the total Klamath River Basin quota will be met.)

E) Klamath River Basin Open Seasons and Bag Limits.

All anadromous waters of the Klamath River Basin are closed to all fishing for all year except those areas listed in the following table. Bag limits are for trout and Chinook salmon in combination unless otherwise specified.

Body of Water	Open Season and Special Regulations	Daily Bag Limit
1. Bogus Creek and tributaries.	Fourth Saturday in May to August 31. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used.	0
2. Klamath River main stem from 3,500 feet downstream of Iron Gate Dam to mouth.		
a. Klamath River from 3,500 feet downstream of the Iron Gate Dam to the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec.	January 1 to August 14.	0 Chinook salmon 1 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota August 15 to December 31, 2008.	3 Chinook salmon - only 2 fish over 22 inches total length until sub quota is met, then 0 fish over 22 inches total length. 1 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota Exception: Chinook salmon over 22 inches total length may be retained from 3,500 feet downstream of Iron Gate Dam to the Interstate 5 bridge when the Department determines that the adult fall-run Chinook salmon spawning escapement at Iron Gate Hatchery exceeds 8,000 fish.	

Body of Water	Open Season and Special Regulations	Daily Bag Limit
b. Klamath River downstream of the Highway 96 bridge at Weitchpec.	January 1 to August 14.	2 Chinook salmon 1 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota August 15 to December 31, 2008.	3 Chinook salmon - only 2 fish over 22 inches total length until sub quota is met, then 0 fish over 22 inches total length. 1 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota Exception: Spit Area (within 100 yards of the channel through the sand spit formed at the Klamath River mouth). This area will be closed to all fishing after the sub quota has been met.	
3. Salmon River main stem, main stem of North Fork downstream of Sawyer's Bar Bridge, and main stem of South Fork downstream of the confluence of the East Fork of the South Fork.	November 1 to February 28.	0
4. Scott River main stem downstream from Fort Jones-Greenview Bridge to the confluence with the Klamath River.	Fourth Saturday in May to February 28.	0
5. Shasta River main stem downstream from the Interstate 5 bridge north of Yreka to the confluence with the Klamath River.	Fourth Saturday in May to August 31 and November 16 to February 28.	0
6. Trinity River and tributaries.		
a. Trinity River main stem downstream from 250 feet below Lewiston Dam to the Old Lewiston bridge.	April 1 to August 31. Only artificial flies with barbless hooks may be used.	0
b. Trinity River main stem downstream from the Old Lewiston Bridge to the Highway 299 West Bridge at Cedar Flat.	January 1 to August 31.	2 Chinook salmon 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**

Body of Water	Open Season and Special Regulations	Daily Bag Limit
	Fall Run Quota September 1 to December 31, 2008.	3 Chinook salmon - only 2 fish over 22 inches total length until sub quota is met, then 0 fish over 22 inches total length. 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota Exception: Chinook salmon over 22 inches total length may be retained downstream of the Old Lewiston Bridge to the mouth of Indian Creek when the Department determines that the adult fall-run Chinook salmon spawning escapement at Trinity River Hatchery exceeds 4,800 fish.	
c. Canyon Creek above the falls located about four miles above the wilderness area boundary.	Last Saturday in April to November 15.	2
d. Trinity River main stem downstream from the Highway 299 West bridge at Cedar Flat to the Hawkins Bar Bridge (Road to Denny).	January 1 to August 31.	2 Chinook salmon 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	September 1 to December 31.	Closed to all fishing.
e. New River main stem downstream from the confluence of the East Fork to the confluence with the Trinity River.	September 15 through November 15. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used..	0
f. Trinity River main stem downstream from the Hawkins Bar Bridge (Road to Denny) to the mouth of the South Fork Trinity River.	January 1 to August 31.	2 Chinook salmon 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota September 1 to December 31, 2008.	3 Chinook salmon - only 2 fish over 22 inches total length until sub quota is met, then 0 fish over 22 inches total length. 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**

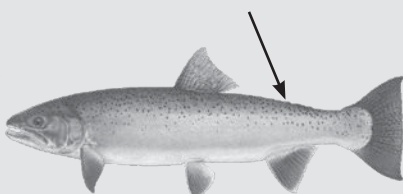
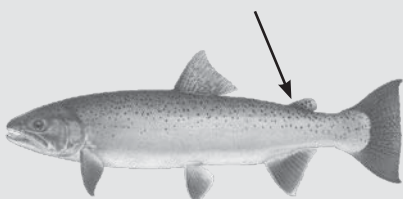
Body of Water	Open Season and Special Regulations	Daily Bag Limit
g. Trinity River main stem downstream from the mouth of the South Fork Trinity River to the confluence with the Klamath River.	January 1 to August 31.	0 Chinook salmon 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
	Fall Run Quota September 1 to December 31, 2008.	3 Chinook salmon - only 2 fish over 22 inches total length until sub quota is met, then 0 fish over 22 inches total length. 5 brown trout 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**
h. Hayfork Creek main stem downstream from Highway 3 bridge in Hayfork to the confluence with the South Fork Trinity River.	November 1 to March 31. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used.	0
i. South Fork Trinity River downstream from South Fork Trinity River Bridge at Hyampom to the confluence with the Trinity River.	November 1 to March 31.	0 Chinook salmon 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead**

** Hatchery trout or steelhead are those showing a healed adipose fin clip (adipose fin is absent). Unless otherwise provided, all other trout and steelhead must be immediately released. Wild trout or steelhead are those not showing a healed adipose fin clip.

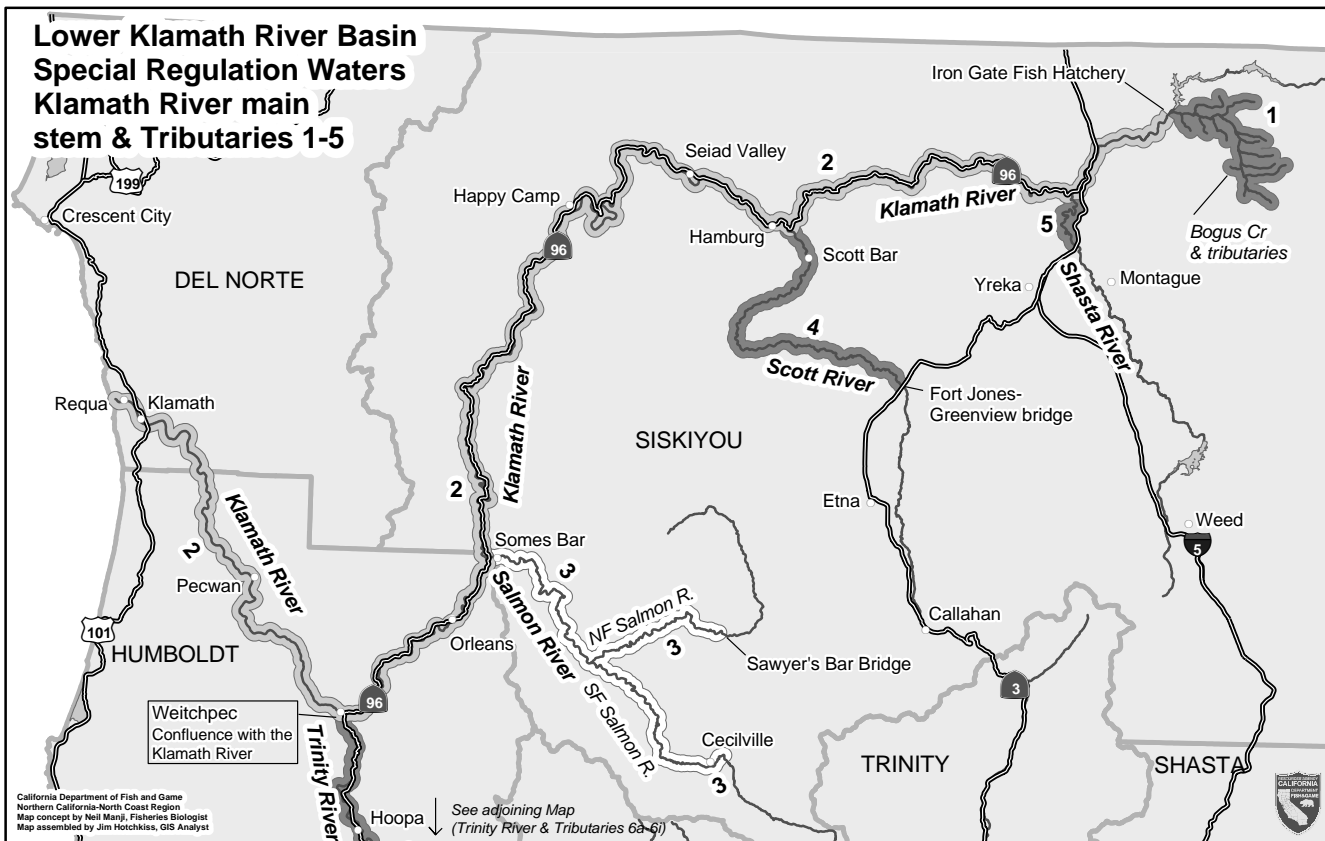
HOW TO DISTINGUISH WILD STEELHEAD FROM HATCHERY STEELHEAD

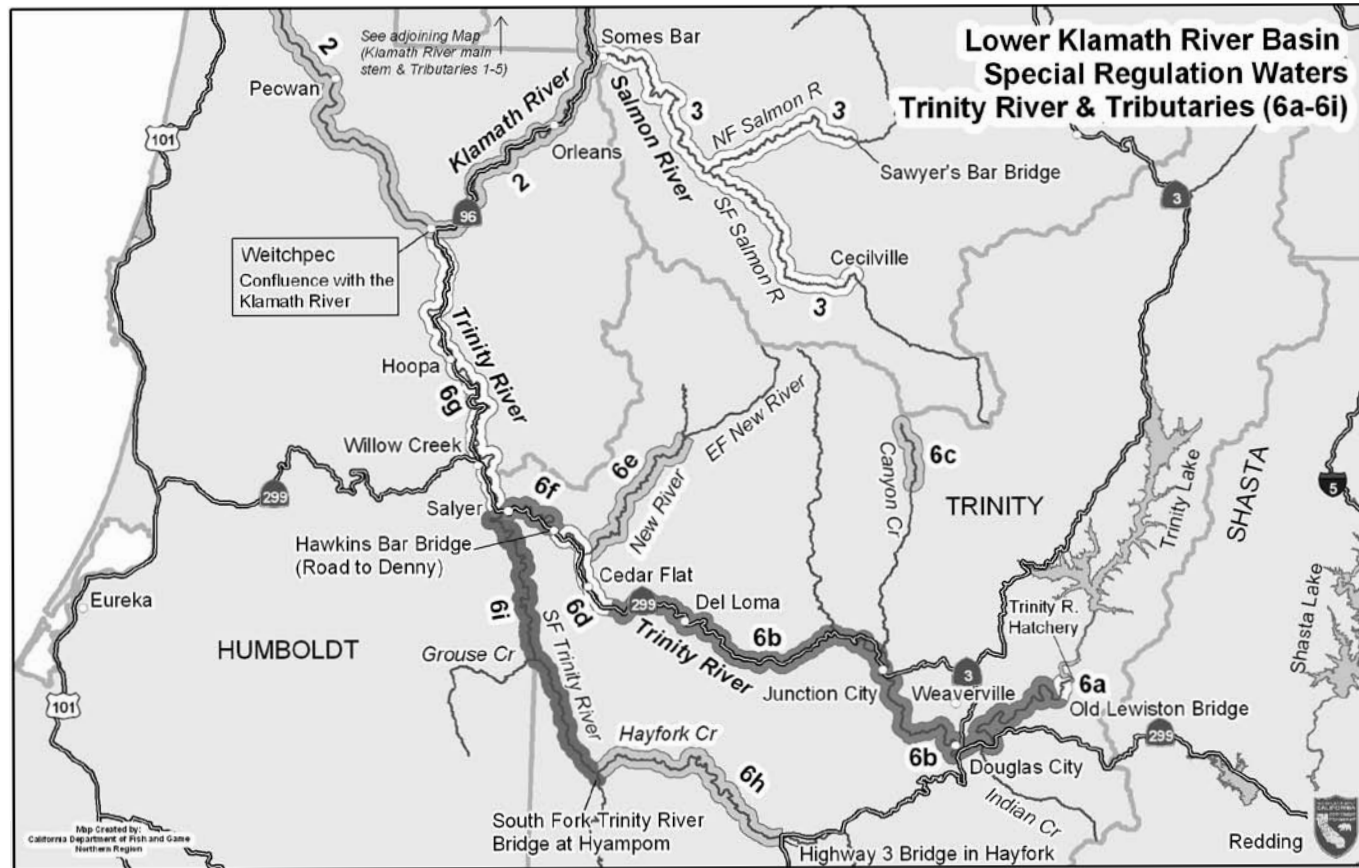
Wild steelhead possess an intact adipose fin

Hatchery steelhead lack an adipose fin, and possess a scar where the fin was clipped



Lower Klamath River Basin Special Regulation Waters Klamath River main stem & Tributaries 1-5





Corrections to Published 2008/2009 Freshwater Regulations

2.00. Fishing Methods--General.

(a) All fish may be taken only by angling with one closely attended rod and line or one hand line with not more than three hooks nor more than three artificial lures (each lure may have three hooks attached) attached thereto. Anglers in possession of a valid two-rod stamp and anglers under 16 years of age may use up to two rods in inland waters which regulations provide for the taking of fish by angling, except those waters in which only artificial lures or barbless hooks may be used. See District Trout, Salmon and Special regulations for exceptions.

(b) Snagging is prohibited. Snagging is defined as impaling or attempting to impale a fish in any part of its body other than the mouth by use of a hook, hooks, gaff, or other mechanical implement. This definition does not include activities otherwise authorized under these regulations for the lawful use of a gaff, bow and arrow, or spear.

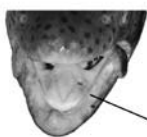
(c) It is unlawful to kill, or retain in possession any fish which has not voluntarily taken the bait or artificial lure in its mouth. Any fish not taken pursuant to these regulations, shall be released immediately back into the water.

2.09. Possession of Illegal Gear.

Except as otherwise provided, no person shall use or possess, except in his or her home, any landing gear, any nets, except standard landing-type dip nets not exceeding 36 inches in greatest dimension, excluding handle, gaffs or spears within 100 yards of any river, stream, lake or reservoir. Non-electronic underwater viewing devices may not be used for taking fish except under the provisions of Section 2.30.

FISH IDENTIFICATION

Steelhead Rainbow Trout



White gums and tongue



Chinook Salmon



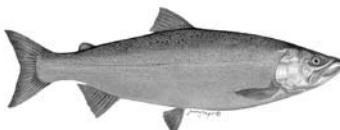
Base of teeth all black



Coho Salmon



Narrow light-gray band
at base of bottom teeth



DFG Fisheries Branch

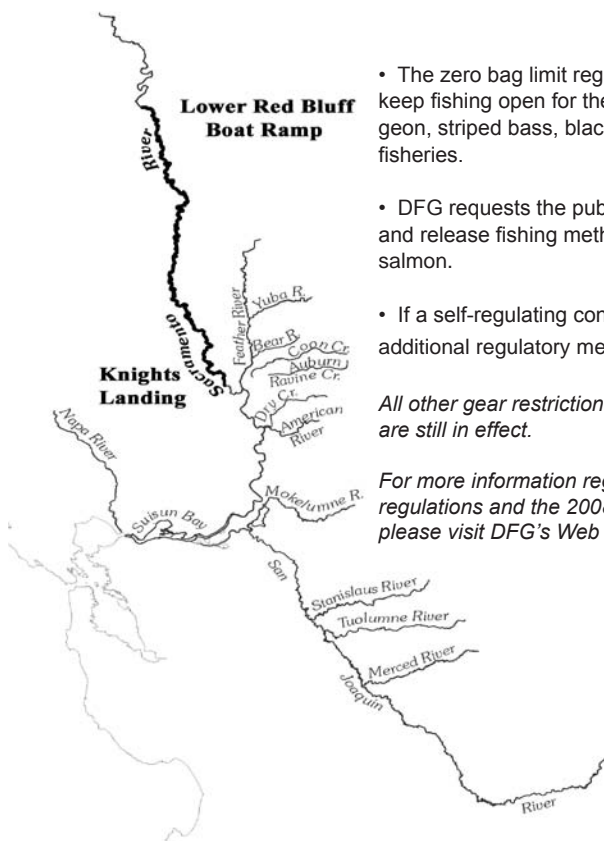
2008 CENTRAL VALLEY SALMON CLOSURE

The Central Valley salmon fishery is closed effective July 3, 2008.

No Chinook can be kept on the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers or any of their tributaries, including the American and Feather rivers.

The only exception:

- o November 1 to December 31
- o Bag and possession limit of 1 salmon
- o Sacramento River from 150 feet below the Lower Red Bluff (Sycamore) Boat Ramp to the Hwy 113 bridge near Knights Landing (*Area shown in bold on the map*)



- The zero bag limit regulations were enacted to keep fishing open for the trout, steelhead, sturgeon, striped bass, black bass, sunfish and catfish fisheries.

- DFG requests the public refrain from using catch and release fishing methods that specifically target salmon.

- If a self-regulating conservative approach fails, additional regulatory measures may be enacted.

All other gear restrictions and fishing regulations are still in effect.

For more information regarding inland sport fishing regulations and the 2008 California salmon fishery, please visit DFG's Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Section 1.74. 2008 Salmon Punch Card and Steelhead Fishing Report Card Requirements.

1.74. Sport Fishing Report Card and Tagging Requirements.

(a) Purpose. These regulations address potential concern for overfishing and a lack of recreational fishing effort and catch information in some or all areas where the fishery operates. Many of these species are of high commercial value, and therefore, additional enforcement mechanisms are needed to improve compliance with existing bag limits and other regulations, and to reduce the potential for poaching.

(b) Species and Location Requirements. Individuals fishing for or taking the following species are subject to report card requirements in the following locations described below:

(1) Salmon, in the Klamath-Trinity River System only. The Klamath-Trinity River System is defined as the anadromous waters of the Klamath River and Trinity River basins. Anadromous waters are defined in Section 1.04.

(2) Steelhead trout, in all anadromous waters where take is authorized.

(3) White sturgeon, in all areas where take is authorized. Tagging of retained individual sturgeon is also required.

(4) Red abalone, in all areas where take is authorized. Tagging of retained individual abalone is also required

(5) California spiny lobster, in all areas where take is authorized.

(c) General Report Card Requirements.

(1) Any person fishing for or taking any of the species identified in this Section shall have in their possession a non-transferable report card issued by the department for the particular species. See special exemption regarding possession of report cards for lobster divers in Section 29.91.

(2) Notwithstanding other statutes and regulations that may exempt sport fishing license requirements, non-transferable report cards are required for any person fishing for or taking the species identified above. All cardholders shall adhere to all reporting and tagging requirements defined in this Section and Sections 5.79, 5.87, 5.88, 27.92, 29.16, and 29.91 regardless of whether a sport fishing license requirement applies. This provision applies to all of the following persons:

(A) Any person who is under 16 years of age

(B) Any person who is fishing from a public pier

- (C) Any person who is fishing on free fishing days
- (D) Any person who holds a lifetime fishing license
- (3) Persons described in subsections 1.74(c)(2) may purchase report cards without purchasing a license.
- (4) All entries made on any report card or tag must be legible and in indelible ink.
- (5) Entries Required at the Time of Report Card Issuance. At the time of issuance of the report card, the cardholder is responsible for entry of the following information, unless both the report card and the sport fishing license are issued through the Automated License Data System:
 - (A) The date the report card is issued, the individual's name, street address, city, state, zip code, home phone, and date of birth shall be entered in the appropriate spaces on the report card. If the cardholder has a driver's license, or DMV identification number, this information shall also be entered in the appropriate spaces. If the cardholder has an e-mail address, it may be entered in the space provided.
 - (B) Acquisition of Sturgeon Fishing Report Cards and Abalone Report Cards - If the cardholder is required to have a sport fishing license, the report card number shall be entered in the designated space provided on the back of the individual's sport fishing license, and the sport fishing license number shall be entered on the report card in the appropriate space.
 - (C) Acquisition of Klamath-Trinity Salmon Report Cards, Steelhead Report and Restoration Cards and Spiny Lobster Report Cards - If the cardholder is required to have a sport fishing license, both the name of the report card and the number shall be entered in the blank area on the back of the individual's sport fishing license, and the sport fishing license number shall be entered on the report card in the appropriate space.
 - (D) If the cardholder wishes to purchase another fishing license after their one, two, or ten-day sport fishing license has expired the cardholder need not purchase a second report card for any species, so long as the cardholder still possesses the report card valid for the calendar year. At the time of purchase of the subsequent license, the additional sport fishing license number shall be entered in the appropriate space on the report card. If there is a space provided for the particular card on the sport fishing license, the number shall be entered in the appropriate space at the time of purchase. If there is no space provided for the card, both the name of the report card and the number shall be entered on the back of the individual's sport fishing license.
- (6) A report card shall be valid only during the open fishing season for

the calendar year shown on the report card.

(7) Cardholders shall return their card by January 31 of the following year to the department at the address specified on the card.

(8) Any person who fails to return his or her report card to the Department by the deadline may be restricted from obtaining the same card in a subsequent license year or may be subject to an additional fee for the issuance of the same card in a subsequent license year.

(9) For abalone and sturgeon report cards, only one report card may be issued per person per license year.

(10) Report cards may not be transferred to another person and no person may possess any report card other than their own.

(d) Replacement Procedures for Lost Abalone or Sturgeon Report Cards. For species for which an individual may purchase only one report card per year (i.e., abalone and sturgeon), if the cardholder loses the card, a replacement card shall be acquired only by following the procedures below:

(1) The individual shall provide all of the following to a Department license office location:

(A) A photocopy of the original report card issued in the cardholder's name, unless the report card was issued through the Automated License Data System.

(B) An affidavit, signed under penalty of perjury, containing the following information:

1. A statement confirming that the originally issued report card cannot be recovered.

2. A statement of the cardholder's best recollection of the prior catch records that were entered on the report card that was lost, including the number of tags utilized.

3. A statement describing the factual circumstances surrounding the loss of the card.

(C) Proof of purchase of the original report card, in the form of an itemized receipt, credit card billing statement, invoice, or other written business record expressly documenting that a report card for the particular species was purchased and the corresponding fee was paid. The cardholder is exempt from this requirement if the report card was issued through the Automated License Data System.

(D) Payment of the Replacement Card Fee specified in Section 701(f), 701(g) or 701(h) Title 14, CCR, established pursuant to subdivision 1053(b) of the Fish and Game Code, and as adjusted pursuant to Sections 713 and 1055 of the Fish and Game Code.

(E) Payment of the Replacement Processing Fee specified in Section 701(i) or 701(j), Title 14, CCR, established pursuant to subdivision 1050(e) of the Fish and Game Code.

(2) Based on the information provided in the written affidavit, the department shall issue only the number of tags that were reported unused on the previously issued report card.

(3) At the time the replacement card is acquired, if the cardholder is required to have a sport fishing license, the number of the replacement card shall be entered in the appropriate space on the sport fishing license and the fishing license number shall be entered in the space provided on the report card.

(4) All regulations applicable to the initial card also apply to additional cards issued pursuant to this subsection.

(e) Replacement Procedures for Salmon, Steelhead, or Lobster Report Cards.

(1) Any cardholder who fills in all available lines on his or her steelhead, salmon or lobster report card shall return the card to the department at the address specified on the card prior to purchasing a second card.

(2) Any cardholder who loses his or her steelhead, salmon or lobster report card may purchase a second card, but at or before the time of purchase shall provide a written affidavit to the department at the address on the report card documenting the lost catch and effort data required by the card to the best of the cardholder's recollection.

(3) At the time the additional card is acquired, if the cardholder is required to have a sport fishing license, both the name of the report card and the number shall be entered on the back of the individual's sport fishing license, and the fishing license number shall be entered in the space provided on the report card.

(4) All regulations applicable to the initial card also apply to additional cards issued pursuant to this subsection.

(f) Specific Report Card and Tagging Requirements. Data recording and tagging procedures vary between report cards and species. See specific regulations in Sections 5.79, 5.87, 5.88, 27.92, 29.16, and 29.91 that apply in addition to the regulations of this Section.

5.87. Klamath-Trinity Salmon Report Card Requirement (FG 684, See Section 701).

(a) Report Card Required in Waters of the Klamath-Trinity River System. All anglers must have a Klamath-Trinity Salmon Report Card in their possession while fishing for or taking salmon in waters of the Klamath-Trinity River System, and must complete and return the card pursuant to regulations in this Section and in Section 1.74.

(b) Prior to beginning fishing activity, the cardholder shall record the month, day, and fishing location on the first available line on the report card.

(c) Whenever the cardholder lands (either retains or releases) a Chinook salmon, the angler shall immediately record whether the fish

was an adult or a jack, and whether the fish has an adipose fin present. Whenever the cardholder releases a Coho salmon, the angler shall immediately record whether the maxillary is present or absent.

(d) Whenever the cardholder moves to another fishing location, the angler shall record the month, day, and location on the next line on the report card.

(e) In the Klamath-Trinity River System, a jack Chinook salmon is defined as any Chinook salmon that is less than 22 inches total length.

(f) In the event an angler fills in all lines and returns a Klamath-Trinity Salmon Report Card, an additional card may be purchased. See Section 1.74.

(g) The annual fee for the Klamath-Trinity Salmon Report Card is specified in Section 701, Title 14, CCR.

5.88. Steelhead Report and Restoration Card Requirements for Inland Waters (FG 682, See Section 701).

(a) Steelhead Fishing Report and Restoration Card Required. All anglers must have a Steelhead Fishing Report and Restoration Card in their possession while fishing for or taking steelhead in anadromous waters, as defined in Section 1.04. Anglers must complete and return the card pursuant to regulations in this Section and in Section 1.74. For purposes of these regulations, a steelhead trout is defined as any rainbow trout greater than 16 inches in length found in anadromous waters.

(b) Prior to beginning fishing activity, the cardholder must record the month, day, and location code on the first available line on the report card.

(c) When a steelhead is retained, the cardholder must immediately fill in a circle indicating whether the fish is a wild fish or a hatchery fish.

(d) When the cardholder moves to another location code, or finishes fishing for the day, the angler must immediately record on the card the number of wild and hatchery fish that were released from that location.

(e) In the event an angler fills in all lines and returns a Steelhead Fishing Report and Restoration Card, an additional card may be purchased. See Section 1.74.

(f) The annual fee for the Steelhead Fishing Report and Restoration Card is specified in Section 7380 of the Fish and Game Code.

Ocean Fishing Regulations Update

This section updates ocean fishing regulations that have changed since publication of the 2008 Ocean Sport Fishing regulations booklet.

Section 27.80, Title 14, CCR is amended to read:

§27.80. Salmon.

(a) Methods of take:

(1) General Provisions. Only by angling as defined in Section 1.05. No sinkers or weights exceeding four pounds may be used, except that a fishing line may be attached to a sinker or weight of any size if such sinker or weight is suspended by a separate line and the fishing line is released automatically by a mechanical device from the sinker or weight when any fish is hooked. See sections 28.65 and 28.70.

(2) Barbless Hooks. No more than two (2) single point, single shank barbless hooks shall be used in the ocean north of Point Conception (34°27'00" N. lat.) when salmon fishing or fishing from any boat or floating device with salmon on board.

(3) Other Hook Restrictions. When fishing with bait in the ocean between Horse Mountain (40°05'00" N. lat.) and Point Conception, if angling by any means other than trolling, then no more than two (2) single point, single shank, barbless circle hooks shall be used. The distance between the two hooks must not exceed five inches when measured from the top of the eye of the top hook to the inner base of the curve of the lower hook, and both hooks must be permanently tied in place (hard tied). A circle hook is defined as a hook with a generally circular shape, and a point which turns inwards, pointing directly to the shank at a 90 degree angle. Trolling is defined as angling from a boat or floating device that is making way by means of a source of power, other than drifting by means of the prevailing water current or weather conditions. See Section 28.65(g).

(4) One Rod Restriction north of Point Conception. Salmon may be taken by angling with no more than one rod in ocean waters north of Point Conception. See Section 28.65(e).

(b) Season:

(1) North of Horse Mountain (40°05'00" N. lat.) and Humboldt Bay. All waters of the ocean north of Horse Mountain and in Humboldt Bay are closed to salmon fishing for 2008. (Note: In 2009, the season will be decided in April by the Pacific Fishery Management Council and California Fish and Game Commission and the section will be amended pursuant to the regulatory process.)

(2) Between Horse Mountain and Point Arena (38°57'30" N. lat.). All waters of the ocean between Horse Mountain and Point Arena are open to salmon fishing from February 16 through April 4, 2008. (Note: In 2009, the season will be decided in April by the Pacific Fishery Management Council and California Fish and Game Commission and the section will be amended pursuant to the regulatory process.)

(3) South of Point Arena. All waters of the ocean south of Point Arena are closed to salmon fishing for 2008. (Note: In 2009, the season will be decided in April by the Pacific Fishery Management Council and California Fish and Game Commission and the section will be amended pursuant to the regulatory process.)

(c) Limit:

(1) Two salmon per day. See subsection (c)(2) below and Section 1.17.

(2) Statewide Silver (coho) Salmon Restrictions: No silver (coho) salmon may be retained.

(d) Minimum size:

(1) North of Horse Mountain: Twenty-four inches total length.

(2) South of Horse Mountain: Twenty inches total length.

Attention All Salmon Anglers

Section 8226. Relinquishment of salmon head for recovery of coded-wire tag.

(a) Notwithstanding any measurement requirements under this code, and to implement the Department's salmon tagging program, any person in possession of a salmon with a missing adipose fin (the small fleshy fin on the back of the fish between the back fin and the tail) upon request by an authorized agent or employee of the Department, shall immediately relinquish the head of the salmon to the state, at no charge, for recovery of any coded-wire tag. The head may be removed by the fish owner or, if removed by the official Department representative, the head shall be removed in a manner to minimize loss of salmon flesh and the salmon shall immediately be returned to the rightful owner.

(b) It is unlawful to intentionally conceal, cull, or release into the waters, a salmon with a missing adipose fin that it is otherwise legal to possess.

Groundfish Regulations Update

27.20. Groundfish Management Areas, Seasons, Depths, Exceptions, and Fishery Closure/Rule Change Process Described.

Regulations that follow in sections 27.25 through 27.50 define fishing seasons and depth constraints that are effective within each Groundfish Management Area. These sections apply to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish as defined in Section 1.91. (These species include but are not limited to rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish). Special closures and exceptions to these regulations are also specified. All regulations of sections 27.25 through 27.50 also apply for California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, which are state-managed species known to associate with federal groundfish.

(a) Depth Constraints: A depth constraint means that during the open season, the aforementioned species may only be taken or possessed in water depths shallower than the specified general depth contour lines, or alternatively, in waters shoreward of lines approximating a particular depth contour, defined by connecting the appropriate set of waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G).

(b) Open Season – Take, Possession and Transit: During any open season in any Groundfish Management Area, in waters deeper than where fishing is authorized or within special closure areas established within a Groundfish Management Area, it is unlawful to take or possess the aforementioned species unless a special exception is provided. However, this regulation does not apply in cases where these species are possessed aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water.

(c) Closed Season: During any closed season in any Groundfish Management Area, it is unlawful to take or possess the aforementioned species regardless of depth, unless a special exception is provided.

(d) California Rockfish Conservation Area: Within any Groundfish Management Area, waters that are closed for these species during specified times and/or closed in specified depths shall be known as the California Rockfish Conservation Area. See Section 27.51.

(e) Fishery closure and/or rule change: When the department determines, based on the best available scientific information, that an annual harvest limit [optimum yield (OY), recreational harvest guideline, or recreational harvest target] established in regulation by the NOAA Fisheries (National Marine Fisheries Service) for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species has been exceeded or is projected to be exceeded prior to the end of the year or that catches are less than predicted, the following rule changes may occur:

(1) The department may modify the seasons and/or depth constraints for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Season and/or depth modifications may differ by Groundfish Management Area, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(2) The department may adjust existing bag or sub-bag limits or establish additional bag or sub-bag limits as needed for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus

Hexagrammos. Bag limits may differ by Groundfish Management Area, time of year, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(3) The department may adjust existing size limits or establish additional size limits as needed for any species of federally-managed groundfish or aggregate group of federal groundfish species, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*. Size limits may differ by Groundfish Management Area, time of year, mode of fishing, or gear utilized.

(f) Notice of closure and/or rule change: The department shall give the public and the National Marine Fisheries Service no less than 10 calendar days' notice of any fishery closure or rule change implemented pursuant to this Section via a department news release. Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

27.25. Northern Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the Northern Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The Northern Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 42° 00' N. lat. (the Oregon/California border) and 40° 10' N. lat. (near Cape Mendocino, Humboldt County).

(b) Seasons and depth constraints (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) **January through April:** Closed.

(2) **May through November:** Open for all species only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.

(3) **December:** Open for all species, except for lingcod, only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines. Lingcod may not be taken or possessed.

(c) Special exceptions to subsection (b) above:

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths all year, except that when fishing in times or areas closed under subsection (b) above, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(2) Leopard shark may be taken or possessed in Humboldt Bay all year.

(3) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(4) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December. Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

§ 27.30. North-Central Groundfish Management Area.

This Section applies to take and possession of all 90 species of federally-managed groundfish, California sheephead, ocean whitefish, and all greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* in the North-Central Groundfish Management Area. Federal groundfish include, but are not limited to, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod, California scorpionfish, kelp greenling, and some species of sharks, skates and flatfish. For specific definitions, applicability, and procedures, see sections 1.91 and 27.20. For size limits, possession limits, and other regulations that apply to individual species, see specific sections beginning with Section 27.60.

(a) The North-Central Groundfish Management Area means ocean waters between 40° 10' N. lat. (near Cape Mendocino, Humboldt County) and 37° 11' N. lat. (at Pigeon Point, San Mateo County).

(b) Seasons, depth constraints, and special closure areas (except as provided in (c) below):

(1) **January through May:** Closed.

(2) **June through November:** Open for all species only in waters shallower than 20 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines.

(3) **December:** Closed.

(4) **Farallons Closure Area:** Waters shallower than 10 fathoms in depth as described by general depth contour lines around the Farallon Islands (off San Francisco and San Mateo counties), including Southeast Farallon Island, Middle Farallon Island, North Farallon Island and Noon Day Rock are closed to fishing for these species at all times. Special exceptions provided for "other flatfish" in subsection (c)(1), shore-based angling in subsection (c)(3) and spearfishing/diving in subsection (c)(4) below do not apply in this closure area.

(5) **Cordell Bank Closure Area:** Waters of the Cordell Bank (off Marin County) shallower than 100 fathoms in depth as approximated by the 100-fathom depth contour that is defined by connecting the set of 100-fathom waypoints adopted in Federal regulations (50 CFR Part 660, Subpart G), is closed to fishing for these species at all times. Special exceptions provided for "other flatfish" in sub-section (c)(1) below apply in this closure area. Special exceptions provided for shore-based angling in subsection (c)(3) and spearfishing/diving in subsection (c)(4) below do not apply in this closure area.

(c) Special exceptions to subsection (b) above:

(1) "Other Flatfish" as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(10), which include Pacific sanddabs, may be taken or possessed in all depths all year, except that when fishing in times or areas closed under subsection (b) above, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(2) Leopard shark may be taken or possessed in Drake's Estero Bay, Bolinas Bay, Tomales Bay, Bodega Harbor, and San Francisco Bay all year.

(3) When angling from shore (includes beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks, and other man-made structures connected to the shore), all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March and December. No vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) may be used to assist in taking or possessing these species while angling from shore under this provision.

(4) When diving or spearfishing, as authorized in Section 28.90, all species may be taken or possessed all year, except lingcod may not be taken or possessed under this provision during the months of January, February, March, and December. Except for spearfishing gear, all other types of fishing gear are prohibited to be aboard the vessel or watercraft (motorized or non-motorized) while spearfishing for the purpose of taking or possessing these species under this provision.

§ 28.26. California Sheephead.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) **Limit:** Five.

(c) **Minimum size:** 12 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for California sheephead may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e) or Section 52.10. Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling **(831) 649-2801** for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

§ 28.27. Lingcod.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open April through November, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open April through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) **Limit:** Two.

(c) **Minimum size:** 24 inches total length.

(d) **Method of take:** Not more than two hooks and one line. For purposes of this section, a hook is a single hook, or double or treble hook with multiple points connected to a common shank.

(e) Fishing rules for lingcod may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

§ 28.28. Cabezon.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) **Limit:** One fish, within a Rockfish, Cabezon, and Greenling complex (RCG complex, as defined in Section 1.91) bag limit of 10 fish.

(c) **Minimum size:** 15 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for cabezon may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e) or Section 52.10. The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

§ 28.29. Kelp Greenling. Rock Greenling.

(a) Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints for greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* (including kelp and rock greenlings): See Section 27.20

through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) **Limit:** For greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos*, within a Rockfish, Cabezon, and Greenling complex (RCG complex, as defined in Section 1.91) bag limit of 10 fish, two fish.

(c) **Minimum size:** 12 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for greenlings of the genus *Hexagrammos* may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e) or Section 52.10. The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

§ 28.48. Pacific Sanddab, Rock Sole, Sand Sole, Butter Sole, Curlfin Sole, Rex Sole, and Flathead Sole.

Pacific sanddab, rock sole, sand sole, butter sole, curlfin sole, rex sole, and flathead sole are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows. These species are also known in the aggregate as "other flatfish" pursuant to subsection 1.91(a) (10). Regulations of this Section do not apply to other species of sanddabs, flounders, or sole.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open year-round, except gear restrictions apply as follows:

(A) January through April - In all depths, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(B) May through December - In waters deeper than 20 fathoms, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open year-round, except gear restrictions apply as follows:

(A) January through May - In all depths, anglers are limited to not more

than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(B) June through November - In waters deeper than 20 fathoms, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(C) December - In all depths, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open year-round, except gear restrictions apply as follows:

(A) January through April - In all depths, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(B) May through November - In waters deeper than 40 fathoms, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(C) December - In all depths, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open year-round, except gear restrictions apply as follows:

(A) January through April - In all depths, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(B) May through November - In waters deeper than 40 fathoms, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(C) December - In all depths, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open year-round, except gear restrictions apply as follows:

(A) January and February - In all depths, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(B) March through December - In waters deeper than 60 fathoms, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open year-round, except gear restrictions apply as follows:

(A) January and February - In all depths, anglers are limited to not more

than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(B) March through December - In waters deeper than 20 fathoms, anglers are limited to not more than 12 No. 2 or smaller hooks and up to 2 pounds of weight. A No. 2 hook means a fishing hook with a gap not greater than 7/16 inch between the hook point and the shank.

(b) Fishing rules for Pacific sanddab, rock sole, sand sole, butter sole, curlfin sole, rex sole, and flathead sole may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling **(831) 649-2801** for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** There is no limit on Pacific sanddab. The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to rock sole, sand sole, butter sole, curlfin sole, rex sole, and flathead sole.

§ 28.49. Dover Sole, English Sole, Petrale Sole, Arrowtooth Flounder, and Starry Flounder.

Dover sole, English sole, Petrale sole, arrowtooth flounder and starry flounder are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows. Regulations of this Section do not apply to other species of flounders or sole.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Closed.

(b) Fishing rules for Dover sole, English sole, Petrale sole, arrowtooth flounder and starry flounder may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling **(831) 649-2801** for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** There is no limit on Petrale sole or starry flounder. The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not

more than 10 of any one species applies to Dover sole, English sole, and arrowtooth flounder.

§ 28.51. Spiny Dogfish, Soupfin Shark.

Spiny dogfish and soupfin shark are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Closed.

(b) Fishing rules for spiny dogfish and soupfin shark may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** Soupfin shark - one. The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to spiny dogfish.

§ 28.52. Big Skates, California Skates, and Longnose Skates.

Big skates, California skates, and longnose skates are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows. Regulations in this Section do not apply to other skate species.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Closed.

(b) Fishing rules for big skates, California skates, and longnose skates may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under

the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at:

www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to big skates, California skates, and longnose skates.

§ 28.53. Ratfish, Rattails and Codlings.

Ratfish, Pacific rattail and finescale codling are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows. Regulations in this Section do not apply to other rattail or codling species.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Closed.

(b) Fishing rules for ratfish, Pacific rattail and finescale codling may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to ratfish, Pacific rattail and finescale codling.

§ 28.54. California Scorpionfish (Sculpin).

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open

May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open January and February in waters shallower than 40 fathoms, and March through December in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open January through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) **Limit:** Five.

(c) **Minimum size:** 10 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for California scorpionfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling **(831) 649-2801** for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

§ 28.55. Rockfish (Sebastes).

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms, except that only Nearshore Rockfish, as defined in subsection 1.91(a)(1) may be taken and possessed.

(b) **Limit:** Ten, within the Rockfish, Cabezon, and Greenling complex (RCG complex, as defined in Section 1.91) bag limit of 10 fish, in any combination of species, except as provided below.

(1) The limit on canary rockfish, cowcod, and yelloweye rockfish is zero. These species shall not be taken or possessed as part of the RCG limit.

(2) In the Northern Groundfish Management Area (see Section 27.25), the limit on bocaccio rockfish is two fish, within the RCG limit.

(3) In the North-Central, Monterey South-Central, Morro Bay South-Central, and Southern Groundfish Management Areas (see sections 27.30 through 27.45), the limit on bocaccio rockfish is one fish, within the RCG limit.

(4) In the Cowcod Conservation Areas (see Section 27.50), the limit on bocaccio and other shelf and slope rockfish, as defined in subsections 1.91(a)(3) and 1.91(a)(4), is zero. These species shall not be taken or possessed as part of the RCG limit in this Management Area.

(c) **Size limit:** None, except no bocaccio may be taken or possessed that is less than 10 inches in total length.

(d) **Method of take:** Not more than two hooks and one line. For purposes of this section, a hook is a single hook, or a double or treble hook with multiple

points connected to a common shank.

(e) Fishing rules for rockfish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling **(831) 649-2801** for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

§ 28.56. Leopard Shark.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms, except that take and possession is authorized year-round in Humboldt Bay.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms, except that take and possession is authorized year-round in Drake's Estero Bay, Bolinas Bay, Tomales Bay, Bodega Harbor, and San Francisco Bay.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms, except that take and possession is authorized year-round in Elkhorn Slough.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms, except that take and possession is authorized year-round in Newport Bay, Alamitos Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) **Limit:** three.

(c) **Minimum size:** 36 inches total length.

(d) Fishing rules for leopard shark may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling **(831) 649-2801** for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

§ 28.57. Pacific Cod, Pacific Whiting, Sablefish, and Thornyheads.

Pacific cod, Pacific whiting, sablefish, longspine thornyhead, and shortspine thornyhead are federal groundfish, as defined in Section 1.91, and thus are subject to special regulations as follows.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through

November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Closed.

(b) Fishing rules for Pacific cod, Pacific whiting, sablefish, longspine thornyhead, and shortspine thornyhead may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for these species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to Pacific cod, Pacific whiting, sablefish, longspine thornyhead, and shortspine thornyhead.

§ 28.58. Ocean Whitefish.

(a) **Open areas, seasons, and depth constraints:** See Section 27.20 through Section 27.50 for definitions, special closure areas, and exceptions. Take and possession is authorized as follows:

(1) **Northern Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(2) **North-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open June through November, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(3) **Monterey South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(4) **Morro Bay South-Central Groundfish Management Area:** Open May through November, in waters shallower than 40 fathoms.

(5) **Southern Groundfish Management Area:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 60 fathoms.

(6) **Cowcod Conservation Areas:** Open March through December, in waters shallower than 20 fathoms.

(b) Fishing rules for ocean whitefish may be changed during the year or in-season by the department under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). The department will provide a news release notifying the public 10 calendar days in advance of a change for this species made under the authority of subsection 27.20(e). Anglers and divers are advised to check the current rules before fishing. The latest fishing rules may be found on the department's website at: www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, or by calling (831) 649-2801 for recorded information, or by contacting a department office.

(c) **Limit:** The general bag limit of not more than 20 finfish in combination of all species with not more than 10 of any one species applies to ocean whitefish.

Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2008 Northern Management Area

Updated May, 2008. Changes are shaded gray.

Ocean waters between 42°00' N. latitude (CA-OR Border) and 40°10' N. latitude (near Cape Mendocino)

Includes all of Del Norte County and most of Humboldt County

Species	Time Period ^{2,3}	Depth Limit ^{2,3}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1,2,4}
RCG Complex (including all species of Rockfish, Cabezon and Greenlings)	<u>Boat-based Anglers³</u> : Open: May-Dec Closed: Jan-Apr <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers³</u> : Open year-round	May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 120 ft (20 fm) deep SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	10 fish in combination per person; see sub-limits for cabezon, greenlings and bocaccio	See individual species and groups below
Canary and Yelloweye Rockfishes, Cowcod	CLOSED all year; NO RETENTION		NO RETENTION (zero)	
Bocaccio	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	10" total length
Cabezon	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp or Rock Greenling	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12" total length
Lingcod	<u>Boat-based Anglers³</u> : Open: May-Nov Closed: Jan-Apr, Dec <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers³</u> : Open: Apr-Nov Closed: Jan-Mar, Dec	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person	24" total length
Leopard Shark ⁵	<u>Boat-based Anglers³ within Humboldt Bay</u> : Open all year <u>Outside of Humboldt Bay</u> : Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³</u> : Open all year	<u>Boat-based Anglers³ within Humboldt Bay</u> : No depth restrictions <u>Outside of Humboldt Bay</u> : Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³</u> : No depth restrictions	3 fish per person	36" total length

Pacific Sanddabs and "Other Flatfish" ⁶ (see Section 28.48)	OPEN all year <i>with certain gear restrictions from Jan-April</i> (see Footnote 6, below)	None, <i>although certain gear restrictions apply in depths greater than 120 ft (20 fm)</i> (see Footnote 6, below)	See Section 28.48	See Section 28.48
Other Federal Groundfish (see Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57)	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57

1. See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.

2. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at **(831) 649-2801**, visit the Marine Region Web site at **www.dfg.ca.gov/marine**, send an e-mail to **AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov**, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information. Anglers may also sign up for e-mail notification of regulation changes at **www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/subscribe.asp**.

3. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season and depth restrictions affecting the RCG complex, ocean whitefish, California scorpionfish, California sheephead, and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). However, when spear fishing during a boat-based closure, only spear fishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:

- Boat-based anglers are fishermen angling from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
- Shore-based anglers are fishermen angling from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks and other manmade structures connected to the shore.
- Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.

4. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A measurement illustration is available on page 80 of the 2008 Ocean Sport Fishing regulations book.

5. The sport fishery for leopard shark inside Humboldt Bay is exempt from season and depth restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish.

6. In closed areas or during closed periods, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as "Other Flatfish" in Section 1.91(a)(10)) may ONLY be taken using the following gear: up to 12 No. 2 (or smaller) hooks and up to 2 lb. of weight.

EXCEPTION: During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water. See sub-section 27.20(b).

Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2008 North-Central Management Area

Updated May, 2008. Changes are shaded gray.

Ocean waters between 40°10' N. latitude (near Cape Mendocino) and 37°11' N. latitude (near Pigeon Point)

Includes a portion of Humboldt County, Mendocino, Sonoma, Marin and San Francisco Counties, and most of San Mateo County

Species	Time Period ^{2, 3, 6}	Depth Limit ^{2, 3, 4, 6}	Daily Bag Limit ⁴	Min. Size Limit ^{1, 2, 5}
RCG Complex (including all species of Rockfish, Cabezon and Greenlings)	<u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open: June-Nov Closed: Jan-May, Dec <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open year-round	May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 120 ft (20 fm) deep ⁴ SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	10 fish in combination per person; see sub-limits for cabezon, greenlings and bocaccio	See individual species and groups below
Canary and Yelloweye Rockfishes, Cowcod	CLOSED all year; NO RETENTION		NO RETENTION (zero)	
Bocaccio	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	10" total length
Cabezon	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp or Rock Greenling	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12" total length
Lingcod	<u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open: June-Nov Closed: Jan-May, Dec <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers</u> ³ : Open: Apr-Nov Closed: Jan-Mar, Dec	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person	24" total length
Leopard Shark ⁷	<u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ³ <i>within San Francisco Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Bolinas Bay, and Drake's Estero Bay:</i> Open all year <u>Outside of the previously mentioned bays:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers</u> ³ : Open all year	<u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ³ <i>within San Francisco Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Bolinas Bay, and Drake's Estero Bay:</i> No depth restrictions <u>Outside of the previously mentioned bays:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers</u> ³ : No depth restrictions	3 fish per person	36" total length

Pacific Sanddabs and "Other Flatfish" ⁶ (see Section 28.48)	OPEN all year with certain gear restrictions from Jan-May and during Dec (see Footnote 6, below)	None, although certain gear restrictions apply in depths greater than 120 ft (20 fm) (see Footnote 6, below)	See Section 28.48	See Section 28.48
Other Federal Groundfish (see Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57)	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57	See Sections 28.49, 28.51, 28.52, 28.53, 28.57

1. See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.

2. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at **(831) 649-2801**, visit the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/marine, send an e-mail to AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information. Anglers may also sign up for e-mail notification of regulation changes at www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/subscribe.asp.

3. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season and depth restrictions affecting the RCG complex, ocean whitefish, California scorpionfish, California sheephead, and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). However, when spear fishing during a boat-based closure, only spear fishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:

- Boat-based anglers are fishermen angling from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
- Shore-based anglers are fishermen angling from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks and other manmade structures connected to the shore.
- Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.

4. Waters less than 10 fathoms (60 ft.) in depth around the Farallon Islands and Noonday Rock are closed at all times for all groundfish species. Waters of Cordell Bank less than 100 fathoms (600 ft.) in depth are closed at all times for all groundfish species except Pacific sanddabs and "Other Flatfish". Divers and shore-based anglers are **not** exempt from these area closures. See Section 27.30(b)(4) and Section 27.30(b)(5) for more information.

5. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A fish measurement diagram is available on page 80 of the 2008-2009 Ocean Sport Fishing regulations booklet.

6. In closed areas or during closed periods, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as "Other Flatfish" in Section 1.91(a)(10)) may **ONLY** be taken using the following gear: up to 12 No. 2 (or smaller) hooks and up to 2 lb. of weight. This exception does not apply in waters less than 10 fm deep off the Farallon Islands and Noonday Rock.

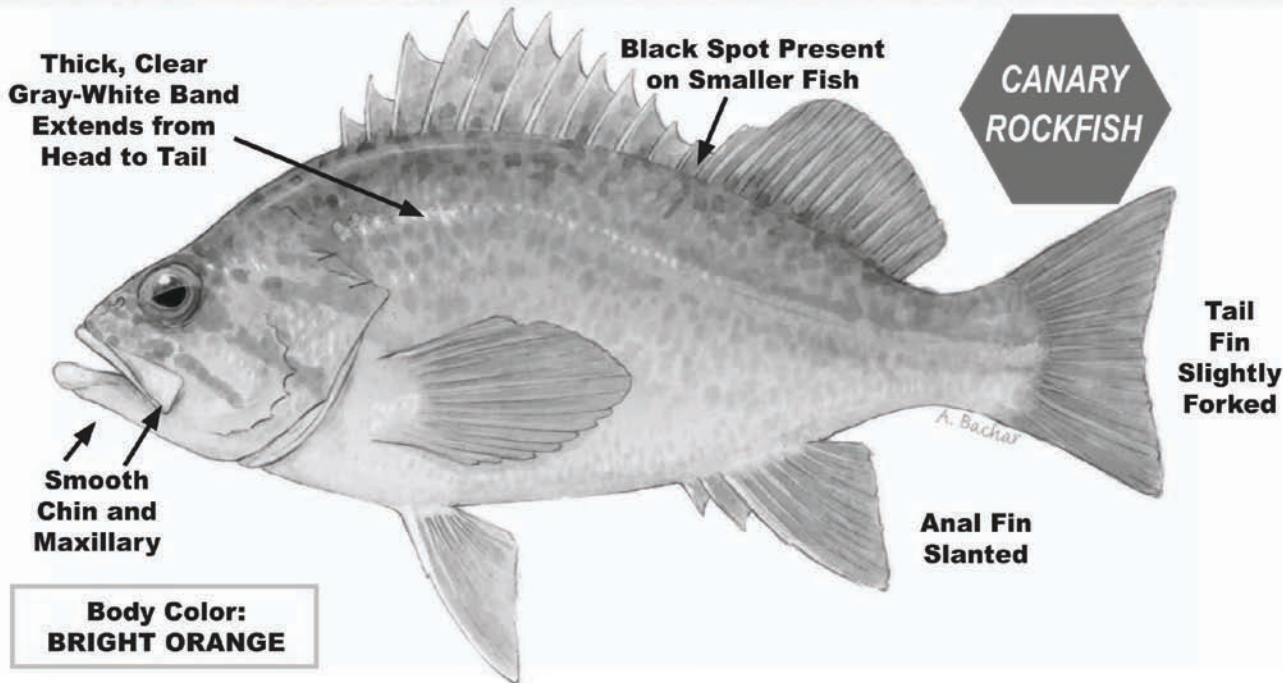
7. The sport fishery for leopard shark inside San Francisco Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Bolinas Bay, and Drake's Estero Bay is exempt from season and depth restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish.

EXCEPTION: During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water. See sub-section 27.20(b).

Canary Rockfish vs. Vermilion Rockfish

**Canary rockfish and vermilion rockfish are often misidentified.
This flyer offers features that can be used to differentiate between the two species.**

CANARY ROCKFISH *MAY NOT BE RETAINED* IN CALIFORNIA



**Body Color:
ORANGE-RED to RED
with dark mottling**

**May Have
Black-Tipped Fins**

**VERMILION
ROCKFISH**

**Tail
Fin
Straight**

**Rough
Chin and
Maxillary**

**Anal Fin
Rounded**

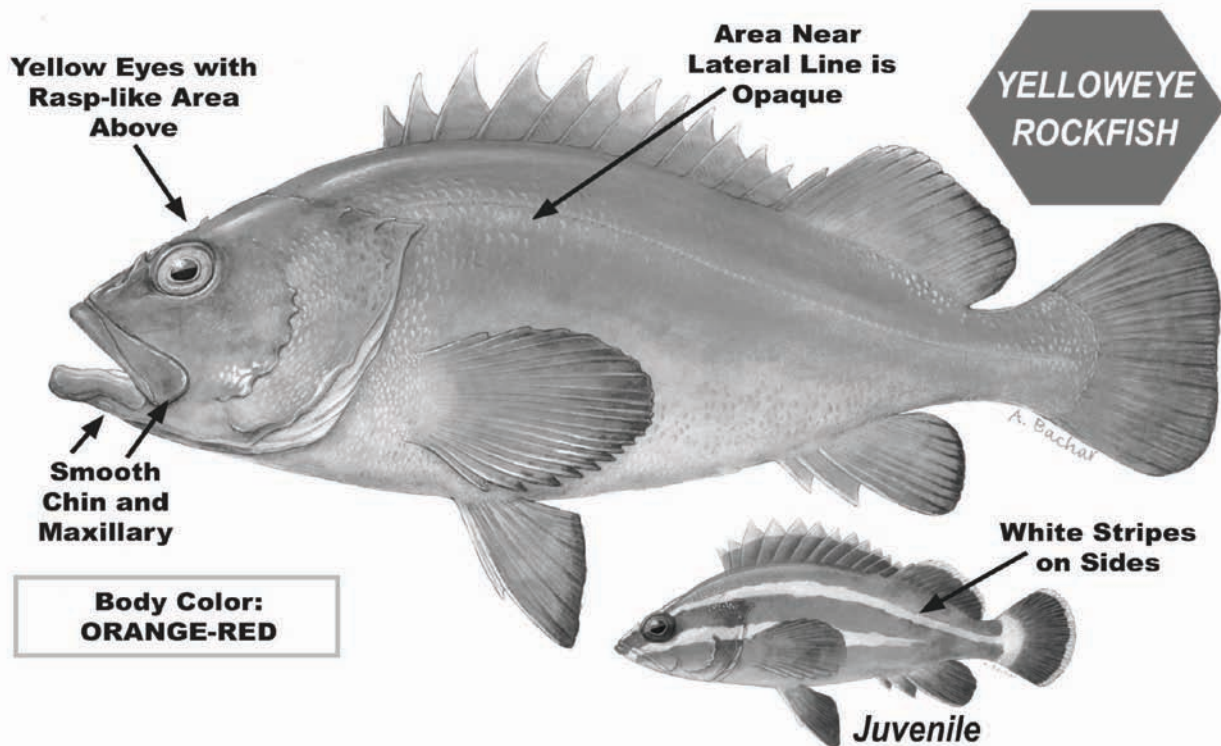
A. Bachar

For more information, please contact your local California Department of Fish and Game office.

A full color version of this flyer is available online at www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/canary_id.pdf.

YELLOWEYE ROCKFISH MAY NOT BE RETAINED IN CALIFORNIA

Yelloweye rockfish are sometimes misidentified as other reddish-colored rockfishes.



“Overfished Rockfishes”... How You Can Help

Through a combination of poor ocean conditions and increased fishing pressure, some rockfish populations have dwindled to very low levels. These populations have been declared “overfished” by the federal government, and rebuilding plans have been implemented to rebuild depleted populations as quickly as possible.

Some species of rockfish are recovering well under their rebuilding plans, such as bocaccio and widow rockfish. Anglers may keep these and many other species as prescribed in current fishing regulations.

Yelloweye rockfish and canary rockfish are two “overfished” species that are not recovering as quickly. It is illegal to keep these species in

California, and violators are subject to fines. Because of their slower recovery rate, canary rockfish and yelloweye rockfish must be returned to the water immediately after being caught, to increase their chances of survival.

Here are some things you can do to reduce your impacts on overfished rockfish species, and increase your future fishing opportunities:

Don't fish where overfished species occur. If you encounter more than one individual of an overfished species, move to a different fishing spot to reduce the number of fish caught that may not survive after being released.

Know your fish and educate others. Familiarize yourself with the rockfish in your area through resources such as fish identification books and guides (see www.RockfishID.com), informational flyers, the DFG Web site (www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/fishid.asp), game wardens, and port samplers.

Minimize the fish's injuries. When rockfish are brought up from depth, decreasing pressure may injure them. These injuries may cause the fish to float helplessly at the surface. Many anglers use an inverted, weighted plastic crate with a rope attached to the bottom to help the fish regain depth, or a weighted, inverted barbless hook or commercially available fish descending device. Visit www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/pdfs/release.pdf for more information.

Handle fish as gently as possible. Use wet hands (not towels, which may remove protective slime) and do not touch the eyes. Get the fish back in the water quickly. Use barbless hooks, and avoid using treble hooks. Visit www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/releasing.pdf for more information.

For up-to-date information on rockfish regulations that pertain to your area, call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at (831) 649-2801 or visit www.dfg.ca.gov/marine/groundfishcentral.





NAME		DATE ISSUED	
STREET ADDRESS			
CITY		STATE	ZIP
HOME PHONE NUMBER ()		E-MAIL ADDRESS	
DATE OF BIRTH		DRIVER'S LICENSE/DMV ID NUMBER	

CA FISHING LICENSE NUMBER	CARD NUMBER
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080001-01

[illegible]

Title 14, Section 1.74 of the California Code of Regulations, requires you to return this report card by January 31, 2009. Mail your card to:
California Department of Fish and Game
Lobster Report Card
4949 Viewridge Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123

CARD CAN NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER PERSON

Important Spiny Lobster Report Card Reminder

Starting in Fall 2008, persons fishing for or taking spiny lobster must have a lobster report card. The purpose of the new reporting requirement is to monitor recreational catch, effort and the gear used in the recreational lobster fishery. Regulations require that prior to beginning fishing activity the cardholder must record the month, day, location, and gear code on the first available line on the report card. When the cardholder moves to another location, or finishes fishing for the day, he or she must immediately record on the card the number of lobster kept from that location. An additional card may be purchased in the event an individual fills in all lines and returns a spiny lobster report card.